Danville Theo. Seminary Oct. 18th 1856.

Dear Brethren,

During the latter part of last Ses-
-sion our Society was in somewhat of a dis-or-
-ganized condition. The Constitution we had
adopted was found to be unsuitable for our
use, and in Consequence of the Changes ne-
-cessary to adapt it to our wants our Corres-
-pondence with Sister Societies was somewhat
neglected; but by the close of the Session, all
the necessary alterations were made, and an
organization, whose working has been pronounced
admirable, perfected. We are thus enabled to re-
-sume that interchange of Christian greetings
and encouragements, which we had been so
sorry to see, for the time, cease.

The Number of Students in this institution
is not quite so large this Session as it was
last; yet the number who are connected
with our society, is larger than it was then;
and the interest manifested in its operations
far greater. During the past year we have

had many things to thank God for; and for none do we feel more thankful, that for the Spirit of Inquiry, which he has graciously placed amongst us, as to our personal duty in relation to the great field of Foreign Labor. One of the Secretaries of the Board of Foreign Missions, the Rev. Leighton Wilson visited us a short time since and attendant upon his visit there seemed to be, an out pouring of the Divine Spirit upon us in this direction; So that there was scarcely one of us, who was not inquiring prayerfully what duty God might have in store, to call him to perform; and who did not feel willing to trust himself implicitly to the will of God and the leadings of his Providence. Several of our number seem to have come to the conclusion, that their call lies in and among the benighted and the heathen, and are anticipating at the end of their Seminary course, to devote themselves to this work, if God should at the time permit them. But whether he permit them to do so, or call them elsewhere, the whole Spirit of

piety and devotion among us, seems by this to have been greatly deepened.

We have also to thank God for the gift of another professor, by whose aid, we hope daily to grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, and daily to become more and more fitted to extend, build up, and defend his kingdom on Earth. The health of two more of our instructors, he has been graciously pleased also, in a measure to restore; so that we can with truth say, as God thus smiles on us, "The Lord, the Lord God merciful & gracious."

These mercies we joyfully communicate to you, knowing that you also will share in our joy as we also share in yours, and praying that both our Society & yours, and all others ordered in the fear of the Lord, may prosper & do good in his cause, and that through them, the Holy Ghost may fill us with a knowledge of the wretched condition of those without God in the world, and stir up our zeal to send and preach the gospel unto them. We remain

Jones in the bonds of our Lord and Savior Jesus
Christ,

Wm. C. Handy
Chairman of the Com. of Correspondence
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To the Society of Religious Inquiry
Princeton Theological Seminary
Princeton N. Jersey.